

nearly a dozen this year and secured eight. Mr. Stevens of Rangagora has shot one and I have had several notices of its having been seen by others. On nearly all occasions the birds are seen in twos, not necessarily pairs, as frequently both birds prove to be males, and females are much less often seen than males.

E. C. STUART BAKER.

DIBRUGARH, ASSAM, *March* 1903.

NO. XIV.—FOOD OF THE HAMADRYAD OR KING COBRA.

Referring to Vety.-Major G. H. Evans' paper on the Hamadryad in Vol. XIV, No. 3, of this Journal the following note regarding the food of this snake may be of interest :—

While touring in the Trans Salween Shan States in February 1900, I shot a hamadryad in the Mè Hang stream. One of my men hung it up on a tree close by. After watching its contortions for a few minutes—for it was not quite dead—I was greatly surprised to see what appeared to be 2 or 3 inches of the tail of a snake protrude from its jaws ; this I immediately laid hold of, and extracted what turned out to be a cobra—a light-coloured variety in excellent preservation so that it could not have been long swallowed. The lengths of the hamadryad and cobra in the flesh were, respectively, 9 feet 8 inches and 4 feet. I procured the skins of both.

W. H. CRADDOCK.

KUALA LIPIS, PAHANG.

(FEDERATED MALAY STATES), *January* 1903.

NO. XV.—OCCURRENCE OF THE COTTON TEAL (*NETTAPUS
COROMANDELIANUS*) IN SIND.

When shooting at a dhund near Sujawal last week I shot a Cotton Teal. I see Oates in his "Game Birds of India" says that "this small duck has not yet been observed in Sind." My shikari said that he had seen the duck before, but that it was very seldom shot. The boatmen did not seem to know it. In case this may interest you I am sending the duck for identification.

J. W. PARRINGTON, LIEUT.,

47th Battery, R. F. A.

KARACHI, *January* 1903.

[NOTE.—There appears to be some doubt as to this teal occurring in Guzerat and Sind so that the above record is interesting. Blanford says in Vol. IV, Birds—Fauna of British India :—"In India this Teal is rare in Malabar, the Bombay Presidency and Kattyawar and wanting in the desert parts of Rajputana, in Sind and the Western Punjab." Oates in his "Manual of the Game Birds of India," Part II, says: "This small duck has not yet been observed in Kashmir, in Sind or in Cutch and probably these tracts lie outside its range." Stuart Baker in "Indian Ducks and their Allies," page 193, Vol. XI., of our Journal says: "In India proper it may be said to have its stronghold in Eastern Bengal, is still very common in Western Bengal